



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 31 August 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

For information, click here:
<http://www.dhs.gov>

Top Stories

- Typically associated with banking fraud, Zeus malware has recently been used to try to compromise government networks, and steal intelligence and defense data and information, according to the Information Warfare Monitor. (See item [49](#))
- CBS and The Associated Press report that federal officials are investigating an arson-fire that started overnight August 28 at the site of a new Islamic center in a Nashville, Tennessee suburb. (See item [69](#))

Fast Jump Menu

PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

- [Energy](#)
- [Chemical](#)
- [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#)
- [Critical Manufacturing](#)
- [Defense Industrial Base](#)
- [Dams](#)

SUSTENANCE and HEALTH

- [Agriculture and Food](#)
- [Water](#)
- [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

SERVICE INDUSTRIES

- [Banking and Finance](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Postal and Shipping](#)
- [Information Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

FEDERAL and STATE

- [Government Facilities](#)
- [Emergency Services](#)
- [National Monuments and Icons](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *August 30, New York Daily News* – (Louisiana) **BP internal probe finds error by own engineers led to explosion, oil spill in Gulf of Mexico: report.** BP has accepted some of the blame for the deadly rig disaster in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana that led to the worst oil spill in United States history. An internal investigation reveals that the oil giant's own engineers misread data that contributed to the explosion aboard the Deepwater Horizon, a source familiar with BP's probe told Bloomberg News. As a

result of the misinterpreted data April 20, rig workers began replacing drilling fluid in the doomed well with seawater, which was too light to prevent natural gas from leaking into the well. The report said this led to the explosion that killed 11 workers and ultimately spewed nearly 5 million barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico. The internal probe is one of many looking into the causes for the disaster. Other companies, including Transocean, which owned the oil rig, and Halliburton, which was working on the well prior to the blast, have also come under scrutiny. However, both companies have pointed fingers back at BP.

Source: http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/2010/08/30/2010-08-30_bp_internal_probe_finds_error_by_own_engineers_led_to_explosion_oil_spill_in_gul.html

2. *August 30, San Francisco Examiner* – (California) **Liberated copper wire causes fit of problems.** Crooks are diving into San Francisco manholes for copper wire in a recent crime trend that has caused power outages for residents and businesses, and even a major hospital. At least a dozen times during the past three weeks, thieves went underground to nab copper from electrical vaults that help feed high-voltage electricity to buildings, police and utility officials said. On August 25, the theft of a copper ring from a transformer cut off power to the UC San Francisco Medical Center at Mount Zion. The hospital was forced to run on backup generators for most of the day. Copper can be sold to scrap-metal dealers for up to \$3 per pound, depending on its quality. Police said transients are often responsible for the underground thefts. The robberies typically occur between 2 and 6 a.m., police said. Increased lighting to areas where copper thieves commonly strike can be a helpful deterrent, according to police. Also, cops are asking the public to report suspicious activity around manholes.

Source: <http://www.sfexaminer.com/local/Liberated-copper-wire-causes-fit-of-problems-101773848.html>

3. *August 29, KVAL 13 Eugene* – (Oregon) **‘It sounded like an explosion, like a bomb’.** Police and firefighters blocked off streets in downtown Eugene, Oregon, August 29 to respond to an underground fire that blew off a manhole cover. When firefighters arrived on scene, black smoke billowed out of the hole in the ground in the heart of downtown. Firefighters kept their distance until Eugene Water and Electric Board crews could turn off the power to the area, including much of downtown. Firefighters extinguished the blaze once the power was turned off.

Source: <http://www.kval.com/news/101771898.html>

4. *August 29, Badger Herald* – (Wisconsin) **Bomb threat near power plant a bust.** Students and police gathered near the University of Wisconsin power plant at Spring and Charter Streets in Madison, August 27 to witness the detonation of a suspicious device. Madison police officers responded to a call of a suspicious package at around 5 p.m., eventually dispatching a Dane County bomb squad unit to detonate the package. Area residents were cleared to an area across the street with a clear view of the process. The bomb squad detonated the suspicious device with the assistance of a bomb-handling robot at approximately 6:45 p.m. A Madison Police Department sergeant said the device, which resembled a pipe, did not contain explosives. Police

arrived at the scene after a 911 call from a Madison-area resident. She said her van was broken into the previous evening and she later discovered the suspicious pipe, which she believed could have been a homemade bomb. A University of Wisconsin Police Department (UWPD) sergeant said personnel at the scene determined the threat was contained to the block of Charter Street between Dayton and Spring streets, causing UWPD to decide against sending out a WiscAlerts message.

Source: http://badgerherald.com/news/2010/08/27/bomb_threat_near_pow.php

5. *August 28, MLive.com* – (Michigan) **Report: Hundreds of defects in Enbridge oil pipeline.** About 100 miles east of the site in Michigan where the Enbridge Inc. pipeline recently ruptured, company officials in December 2009 found an anomaly in the same line that led them to reduce the pressure there by 90 percent, according to a company document. After excavating the site in Marshall, the company discovered a dent with minor metal loss, according to the report made available to the Kalamazoo Gazette. The company determined the anomaly required a 60-day remedy, which, based on the time period, means there is at least 80 percent metal loss in the pipe, according to federal regulations. No repairs have been performed on the pipe in that location and the company was continuing to operate there at 90 percent lower pressure until the oil spill in Marshall Township, which sent 1 million gallons of crude into the Kalamazoo River.

Source:

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/08/report_hundreds_of_defects_in.html

For another story, see item [45](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Industry Sector

6. *August 30, Beaumont Enterprise* – (Texas) **Interstate 10 near Hamshire closed until Wednesday.** All east and westbound lanes of Interstate 10 between Farm to Market 365 and State Highway 73 near Hamshire, Texas, are closed after an accident early August 29 caused a hazardous chemical spill. Authorities expect the closure to last until September 1, according to a Texas Department of Transportation spokesman. Eastbound traffic on Interstate 10 is detoured to State Highway 73 and westbound traffic is detoured to Farm to Market 365. An eastbound semi tractor trailer collided with a passenger truck hauling a trailer and overturned at about 3:30 a.m., releasing the highly toxic and corrosive chemical isobutene. Due to the highly flammable nature of the chemical and holes in the tank, crews are draining the chemical from the tanker slowly. Crews with U.S. Environmental Services, L.L.C., a hazardous material emergency response company, are working to clean the spill.

Source:

http://www.beaumontenterprise.com/news/local/wreck_hazardous_chemical_spill_close_ih-10_near_hamshire.html?showFullArticle=y

7. *August 27, Associated Press* – (California) **Chemical released at SF recycling center.** San Francisco, California fire officials said one person was taken to the hospital after a chemical was accidentally released into the air at a recycling facility at Pier 96. A fire official said a box containing ammonium phosphate — a white powder found in fertilizer — broke while going down a conveyor belt at West Coast Recycling around 6:30 a.m. August 27. One person was taken to the hospital complaining of eye irritation. About a dozen other people had their eyes flushed at the scene, and the building was evacuated. The area is being cleaned up and officials expected workers would be able to return to the facility later in the day.
Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_15914004?nclink_check=1

For another story, see item [40](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. *August 30, Associated Press* – (Vermont) **Vt. Yankee nuke plant has ‘unusual event’.** The Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant in Vernon, Vermont is continuing to operate at full power after the staff declared a brief “unusual event” due to a loss of some control room alarm circuits. The plant said the unusual event was declared at 7:05 p.m. August 29. The problem was traced to an internal power supply, which was repaired. The unusual event was lifted at 8:28 p.m. An unusual event is the lowest of four emergency classifications.
Source: <http://www.bostonherald.com/news/national/northeast/view.bg?articleid=1277918&src=rss>
9. *August 30, Brattleboro Reformer* – (National) **NRC considers long-term on-site storage of waste.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) voted earlier during the month of August to explore the option of storing nuclear waste at decommissioned sites past the current 30-year standard. The NRC Chairman wrote in his vote, “The Commission has made a generic determination that, if necessary, spent fuel generated in any reactor can be stored safely and without significant environmental impacts for at least 60 years beyond the licensed life for operation.” He also recommended that the staff prepare an update to the Waste Confidence Findings and Proposed Rule, “to account for storage on site storage facilities, off-site storage facilities, or both, for more than 100 years, but no longer than 300 years, from the end of licensed operations of any nuclear power plant, which may include the term of a revised or renewed license.” Now that all the chairmen have voted, the Secretary of the Commission will condense the information and provide guidance for the staff, an NRC spokesman said. “It’s been proven you can store this material safely on site,” the spokesman said.
Source: http://www.reformer.com/localnews/ci_15934549
10. *August 27, Global Security Newswire* – (National) **Nation’s nuclear power plants prepare for cyber attacks.** The threat to digital systems at the country’s nuclear power

plants is considerable, but the sector is better prepared to defend against potentially devastating cyber attacks than most other utilities, according to government and industry officials and experts. Cyber attacks have been an increasing source of concern in recent years, but the threat was highlighted last month by the first discovery of malicious code, called a worm, specifically formulated to target the systems that direct the inner operations of industrial plants. To date, the malware is thought to have infected more than 15,000 computers worldwide, mostly in Iran, Indonesia and India. The issue is critically important for new nuclear power facilities that would be built in the United States and throughout the world as control rooms would employ digital systems to operate the plants. Those state-of-the-art instruments and systems make them targets for hackers. A Nuclear Regulatory Commission spokeswoman declined to say whether there have been any cyber strikes against the nation's nuclear power sector. Security events, including a computer-based attack at an energy facility, would be "sensitive information" and therefore not released to the public, she said. There have been no cyber attacks to date on U.S. nuclear facilities, according to the vice president of regulatory affairs at the Nuclear Energy Institute, a policy organization of the nuclear power and technologies industry.

Source: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20100827_1692.php

11. *August 27, Global Security Newswire* – (International) **Terrorism suspect employed at isotope-stocked hospital.** One of several Canadian men suspected of plotting a terrorist bombing campaign worked at a hospital that houses medical isotopes that could be used in a radiological "dirty bomb," the Ottawa Citizen reported August 27. The suspect's work as an X-ray technician would not have brought him into contact with radioactive material used at the Ottawa Hospital's radiology center, hospital administrators said. The material, used in treatment of cancer and other health issues, is not kept within the part of the hospital where he worked. However, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service had officers watching the suspect at the hospital's Civic Campus, a possible sign the agency worried he might obtain sensitive material, according to the Citizen.

Source: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20100827_5030.php

12. *August 27, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **Ex-USSR awash in radioactive 'dirty bomb' substances.** It has been one of Europe's worst nightmares: traffickers obtaining highly radioactive materials on the loose in the former Soviet Union with the help of corrupt officials and passing them on to rogue groups looking to make a dirty bomb. The seizure this month of two kilograms of uranium in Moldova, an impoverished ex-Soviet nation bordering EU member Romania, is a stark reminder of just how available and poorly guarded nuclear materials can be, analysts said. Moldovan police said last week they had seized a container with 1.8 kilograms of highly radioactive Uranium-238, and arrested a group of suspected traffickers who had sought to sell it for 9 million euros. The United States has said it provided technical assistance to Moldova in the case, which the U.S. State Department described as a serious smuggling attempt. "Hundreds of thousands of tons of uranium lie in storage at industrial sites, one can take bagfuls of them," an independent Russian military expert told AFP. "There are people who try to sell them at a high price and most often they

fall into the hands of security services,” he said. “The entire territory of the former Soviet Union is awash in radioactive material which was used in Soviet times for some 30 various ministries and services, in medicine or agriculture,” another independent Russian military expert said.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hjqGwHuY3KAJ96vE5wHHwMBjayxA>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Critical Manufacturing Sector

13. *August 30, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Hazmat workers at scrap yard fire in western Pa.** Hazardous materials crews and firefighters are mopping up at the scene of a scrap yard fire that remains under investigation in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania. Aliquippa police said flames were shooting 30 to 40 feet in the air after the fire at Bronze Resources was reported about 2 a.m. August 30. Firefighters said the scrap yard was filled with old cars, causing concern that gasoline could still be in some of the tanks. No injuries have been reported. The scrap yard is near an industrial park, but no nearby businesses have been evacuated.

Source: <http://www.abc27.com/Global/story.asp?S=13065277>

14. *August 28, Spokane Spokesman-Review* – (Washington) **Sand buildup from leaking pipe blamed for foundry roof collapse.** A buildup of sand on the roof of a building in the Spokane Valley Industrial Park in Spokane, Washington caused a roof to partially collapse last week, but no one was standing underneath the section that gave way. Spokane Valley Fire Department crews were called August 19 to Spokane Foundry in the park off Sullivan Road. The business uses a pipe on the roof of the building to transfer sand from one end of the building to the other, and uses between 10,000 and 30,000 pounds of sand per day. The pipe had a hole in it, which was repaired. At some point after the repair was inspected, the fix failed and sand began to leak out of the pipe. “It built up a pile of sand on the roof,” a fire captain said. “It’s a lot more condensed than a snow load.” So much weight concentrated in one area caused the roof to give way. No one was injured.

Source: <http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewiStockNews/articleid/4448732>

15. *August 28, Laconia Citizen* – (New Hampshire) **Foundry cited for violations.** The president of Franklin Foundry in Franklin, New Hampshire, and his company have been indicted by a federal grand jury for illegally storing hazardous waste on-site. The indictment against Franklin Non-Ferrous Foundry, Inc. and its president, alleges that the last shipment of hazardous waste from the foundry was in or around July 2005. Since then, the indictment charges, the company accumulated and stored hazardous waste on-site. Franklin makes many metal parts for various industrial applications. A byproduct of the company’s foundry operation is waste containing hazardous or toxic concentrations of lead and cadmium. Under the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and under New Hampshire environmental laws, a generator of

hazardous waste such as Franklin Foundry may not store hazardous waste at its facility for more than 90 days without a permit unless it is authorized.

Source:

<http://www.citizen.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100828/GJNEWS02/708289945/-1/CITNEWS>

16. *August 27, Consumer Affairs* – (National) **Ford recalling half-million minivans.** Ford says it is recalling 575,000 Windstar minivans sold in the U.S. and Canada because the axles could fracture. The recall involves older models — 1998 to 2003 — and the carmaker said vehicles with high mileage may be especially vulnerable. In a very small number of cases, Ford said, the axles have fractured in certain locations on the right and/or left side, and affected vehicle handling. In May, a group of Ford Windstar owners filed a class action lawsuit in federal court in Pennsylvania, alleging that their vans' rear axles are rusting out, rendering the cars "unfit, unsafe, and unmerchantable." The plaintiffs said that a design defect "collects and traps water [in the axle], causing it to rust from the inside out." Specifically, the suit alleges the cylinder is hollow and unsealed, making it easy for liquid to enter, and lacks "drainage ports," meaning that the water then gets stuck inside the cylinders and has no way of getting out. The recall for the Windstar — which is no longer in production — applies to vehicles in 21 states, the District of Columbia, and Canada where road salt corrosion is more common.

Source: http://www.consumeraffairs.com/news04/2010/08/ford_windstar.html

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

17. *August 30, Bloomberg* – (International) **Obama to revamp U.S. export controls by easing restrictions on some sales.** The U.S. President plans to ease restrictions on selling products with military applications to foreign buyers as part of a restructuring of U.S. export rules that companies said were too broad and burdensome. The President will announce the changes, that will create narrower and more consistent rules for defense, technology and aerospace products, in a video message to an export-control conference in Washington August 31, said Administration officials who asked not to be named because the plans aren't public. A yearlong review by the Secretary of Defense led to the refining of rules that were largely set to keep dual-use technology including encryption software and airplane parts out of the hands of military adversaries. Businesses complained the list of prohibited products was too long and out of date, and found it hard to tell if they were subject to the ban, said the president of the National Foreign Trade Council. "If you protect everything, you end up protecting nothing," he said. "These changes are the most important in at least 20 years in terms of defense, aerospace, and technology exports." At the center of the new approach is a three-tier licensing system that will have stricter controls only for items that have direct warfare applications, the officials said. Restrictions will be looser for less military-sensitive products such as the brake pads used on tanks. Additional changes, including the development of a single licensing agency, will require Congressional approval, the officials said. Currently, the Commerce Department and State Department administer

different parts of the export-control rules with the input of the Defense Department and other agencies.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-08-30/obama-to-revamp-u-s-export-controls-by-narrowing-military-restrictions.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

18. *August 28, Associated Press* – (National) **Bank of America online banking down for 4 hours.** Bank of America Corp. said its online banking service was down for about 4 hours August 27 but service has been restored. A representative for the nation's largest bank declined to specify a reason for the outage except to say that it was a "temporary system" issue. She could not say whether the site has experienced a similar across-the-board outage before. The bank, based in Charlotte, North Carolina, said service was restored at around 5:15 p.m. EDT. The outage began at around 1:25 p.m. EDT. Some customers may still have trouble signing on because of the volume of people trying to access the site. Customers can also get account information from ATMs or banking centers. The representative said none of Bank of America's 18,000 ATMs were affected by the outage.

Source:

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hmlAOFYZDoylSJ_e_v0DLxdUPe3-QD9HS3BU00

19. *August 27, Bank Info Security* – (National) **Bank takes tough stand on fraud.** An extreme decision made by one small bank in Utah to reduce fraud losses is not likely to become the norm. But the move by Provo, Utah-based Bonneville Bancorp (\$34 million in assets) to block signature-based debit transactions in California, Georgia and Florida shows that banking institutions have avenues to pursue in their fight against card fraud. "I don't think this decision to block entire states is indicative of a trend at all," said a financial industry consultant and owner of PG Silva Consulting. "But I think it does show that banks have ways of combating fraud, even if it is heavy-handed, such as this move." Bonneville Bank declined to comment on its decision; but according to the bank's Web site, Bonneville announced July 6 that "high amounts of fraudulent card activity in California, Florida and Georgia," pushed the bank's leadership to cut off all signature-based debit transactions in those markets. Only PIN-debit will now be allowed. Signature-based debit transactions do not require the entry of a PIN. When the debit card is swiped, the transaction is run like a credit transaction, and therefore carries a higher interchange fee. But signature-based transactions also are more prone to fraud, because they do not have the second layer of authentication that the PIN provides.

Source: http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=2875

20. *August 26, Bank Info Security* – (National) **ACH fraud: action plan in Oct.** A working group created by the Financial Services Information Sharing and Analysis Center is working on developing best practices to fight corporate account takeover. These incidents, resulting from ACH and wire fraud against business accounts, have

been the focus of industry experts for 1 year. The FBI said that at least one or two incidents [er weel of corporate account takeover are reported, resulting in financial losses for businesses and lawsuits against banks. An information security professional at a worldwide bank is leading FS-ISAC's Corporate Account Takeover Working Group. Since the formation of the 45-member task force in May, 31 financial services companies, including banks, have joined the group. Five industry associations, including the American Banking Association, the Independent Community Bankers Association, the Financial Services Roundtable technology arm BITS, NACHA and SWACHA, and eight government and law enforcement agencies have also joined the group. The group's short term goals are a September 22 presentation at an FS-ISAC meeting on recommendations for advisories and best practices that will be presented during the National Cyber Security Alliance's cyber awareness month in October. Source: http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=2871

21. *August 23, ZD Net* – (International) **ATM makers patch Black Hat cash-dispensing flaw.** Two automated teller machine (ATM) manufacturers have shipped patches to block the cash-dispensing attack demonstrated by a researcher at the 2010 Black Hat conference. Hantle (formerly Tranax) and Triton released separate bulletins to address the issue, which lets a remote hacker overwrite the machine's internal operating system, take complete control of the ATM and send commands for it to spew cash on demand. At the Black Hat conference, the researcher demonstrated two different attacks against Windows CE-based ATMs — a physical attack using a master key purchased on the Web and a USB stick to overwrite the machine's firmware; and a remote attack that exploited a flaw in the way ATMs authenticate firmware upgrades. Source: <http://www.zdnet.com/blog/security/atm-makers-patch-black-hat-cash-dispensing-flaw/7210>

For another story, see item [61](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation Sector

22. *August 30, Newark Star-Ledger* – (New Jersey) **NJ Transit bus fire forces evacuation in Newark.** A New Jersey Transit (NJ Transit) bus fire forced the evacuation of five passengers in Newark around 2 p.m. August 29, authorities said. All passengers were led to safety when the bus driver smelled smoke above the No. 27 line bus and stopped the vehicle at Hawthorne Ave and Fabyan Place, said a NJ Transit spokesman. The cause of the fire is still under investigation, but it is believed to be an electrical fire in the engine compartment in the back of the bus, he said. All the passengers left the bus through the front door with no injuries. The fire was visible to the passengers and driver after leaving the bus. The on-board fire suppression system was activated and the Newark Fire Department responded to the scene. The bus suffered extensive damage and was towed from the scene. Source: http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2010/08/nj_transit_bus_fire_forces_eva.html

23. *August 29, Associated Press* – (Arizona) **69 vehicles crash in Arizona deluge.** A surprise downpour sparked collisions involving 69 vehicles on an interstate near the downtown Phoenix, Arizona area August 28, closing the westbound roadway for hours, and sending seven people to hospitals. The crashes began about 6:30 p.m. with many drivers going too fast or not leaving enough distance between cars for the slippery conditions, a department of public safety spokesman said. “The storm hit hard, hit fast, and caught a lot of drivers by surprise,” he said. “The collisions began in the far right side of the roadway near the 7th Street exit ramp and this thing kind of perpetuated itself, enveloping the whole roadway.” A 5-mile stretch of westbound Interstate 10 was closed for about 3 and 1/2 hours, reopening about 10 p.m.
Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/38899630/ns/us_news-life/
24. *August 29, Los Angeles Times* – (California; National) **Lasers force 2 Coast Guard helicopters to land at LAX.** Two Coast Guard helicopters were forced to land at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) in the last week after being flashed with laser beams, the latest of 63 such incidents reported near the airport so far this year, and part of a growing problem nationwide. Someone flashed a laser at a Coast Guard helicopter flying over San Pedro’s Cabrillo Beach about 9 p.m. August 26, forcing the crew to make a precautionary landing at LAX, said a Coast Guard petty officer. Another Coast Guard helicopter was flashed with a laser August 24 while flying over Torrance. It also had to land. In both incidents, crew members were grounded until a doctor cleared them to fly again. Aiming laser beams in pilots’ eyes is illegal and can cause temporary blindness. Federal Aviation Administration officials said the aiming of high-powered beams at aircraft is a growing problem. They said the number of such cases has risen dramatically nationwide since the early 2000s. The agency has logged 1,525 laser incidents this year, a big jump from the 283 reported in 2005.
Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-faa-laser-20100829,0,15935.story>
25. *August 29, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* – (Pennsylvania) **Lasers pointed at two STAT MedEvac helicopters.** The Federal Aviation Administration was notified after lasers were pointed at two STAT MedEvac that were flying north of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a STAT MedEvac official told a Pittsburgh-area television station. A manager for STAT MedEvac said in an e-mail to the news station that the lasers were green in color. No one was injured and there was no damage.
Source: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/10241/1083560-100.stm>
26. *August 29, OfficialWire* – (North Carolina) **Windshield crack forces emergency landing.** A crack in a windshield forced a Washington D.C. to Nashville, Tennessee flight down in Charlotte, North Carolina, US Airways said. US Airways Express Flight 2455 made a safe landing at Charlotte-Douglas International Airport around 10:30 a.m. August 28, WCNC-TV, Charlotte, reported. Airline personnel said the plane was carrying 14 passengers and 3 crew members. The cause of the crack had not been determined and the plane was taken out of service. The flight took off from Washington’s Reagan National Airport at 8:40 a.m. and was to arrive in Nashville at 9:41. US Airways said the passengers boarded another flight and arrived at 12:02 p.m.

Source:

http://www.officialwire.com/main.php?action=posted_news&rid=209341&catid=24

27. *August 29, KIRO 7 Seattle* – (Washington) **Alaska Airlines passengers evacuate Boeing 737 at Sea-Tac.** Passengers aboard an Alaska Airlines flight from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport in Washington state to Anchorage, Alaska August 29 were evacuated after smoke and a brief flash of flame occurred on a Boeing 737 as it sat at a gate. An Alaska Airlines spokesperson said 144 passengers and crew of seven were on the 737 at gate N7 when residual fuel in an engine of the auxiliary power unit (APU) caused brief flame and smoke. The spokeswoman said the APU, which is attached to the rear of the aircraft, provides power to the aircraft when it is at the gate. The passengers were evacuated and boarded another plane to Anchorage. No one was hurt.

Source: <http://www.kirotv.com/news/24807143/detail.html>

28. *August 28, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **18 nations wrap up mock terror exercise in Panama canal.** Eighteen nations August 27 wrapped up nearly 2 weeks of military exercises to defend the Panama Canal from mock terrorist attacks and other threats, the U.S. Southern Command chief said. Sponsored by the United States, Panama and Chile — the three top users of the canal — the exercises began annually in 2002, and are key in safeguarding global and regional shipping lanes. In Panamax 2010, the host country sought U.N. Security Council authorization for a United States-led international military expedition to counter an attack on the canal by an international terrorist group bent on regional destabilization. Military and police forces from 18 countries took part in the exercises, including Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay. They involved ground and sea operations, humanitarian aid distribution, response to natural catastrophes, and fighting drug traffickers.

Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5imQCK-DZD23NhzCJeMF23AcXwlGw>

29. *August 27, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **Greyhound bus stopped after passenger calls 911.** The Tennessee Highway Patrol said a Greyhound bus is again northbound on Interstate 75 after being checked for explosives in Campbell County, near the Kentucky state line. A Tennessee Department of Safety spokesman said a state trooper stopped the bus near Jellico after a passenger aboard it called 911. The caller said a fellow passenger had a suspicious package taped to his waist. Dogs trained to detect explosives and drugs were used to check the Greyhound bus and no explosives were found. A 32-year-old man is being charged with public intoxication and possession of prescription pills for resale. The bus was northbound with stops in Kentucky, Ohio and eventually Detroit, and was delayed for more than 2 hours by the incident.

Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/08/27/1795114/greyhound-bus-stopped-after-passenger.html>

For more stories, see items [5](#), [6](#), and [50](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

30. *August 29, Associated Press* – (North Dakota) **Police dispose of explosive left in ND mailbox.** Burleigh County authorities disposed of an explosive device that had been lit and left in a mailbox south of Bismarck, North Dakota. An official with the sheriff's office said a resident heard noises outside about 2 a.m. August 26 and later found the device, which was lit but did not detonate, in his mailbox. A Bismarck police spokesman said the department's bomb squad took an X-ray of the device then disposed of it. No one was injured in the incident. The spokesman said there are no suspects, although this is not the first explosive device reported in the area in the past few months. Authorities haven't determined whether the incidents are related. Source: <http://www.grandforksherald.com/event/apArticle/id/D9HTAGJ03/>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Agriculture and Food Sector

31. *August 30, KRGV 5 Rio Grande Valley* – (International) **Explosion at downtown Reynosa bar.** Mexican authorities are investigating an explosion at a Reynosa, Mexico, bar. The blast happened just before 1 p.m. August 28 at the La Quebradita bar near Calle Colon and Calle Juarez in the downtown area. Few details are being released. Officials were urging residents to stay away from the area. It is unknown what type of explosive device was used or if anyone was hurt. In the resort town of Acapulco, Mexico 14 bodies were discovered in different parts of the city. Mexican officials said the victims were bound, blindfolded and shot. Two bodies were found in a supermarket parking lot, and the others were found along highways. The victims were all men ages 22 to 38 years old. Mexican officials said some of the bodies had messages left on top of them. They are suspected to have been written by drug gangs. Source: <http://www.krgv.com/news/local/story/Explosion-at-Downtown-Reynosa-Bar/XLYdlWAQrEuzFgiCQ3i0nQ.csp>
32. *August 30, Environmental Health News* – (National) **Plants take up drugs, antibacterials from biosolids used as fertilizers.** New research shows that the drugs and contaminants that often contaminant sewage sludge that is used as fertilizer can be taken up by the plants grown in fertilized fields and gardens. Also called "biosolids" these fertilizers are regularly applied to agricultural fields and are sometimes packaged as organic soil fertilizers sold in home improvement stores. The results raise significant public health concerns about use of biosolids on croplands and in gardens used to grow produce for consumption. To compile the report, Uptake of Pharmaceutical and Personal Care Products by Soybean Plants from Soils Applied with Biosolids and Irrigated with Contaminated Water, a group of University of Toledo scientists collected biosolids and wastewater effluent from a wastewater treatment plant in Oregon, Ohio. The biosolids were mixed with local soil and added to nursery pots sowed with soybean seeds. The plants grew in a greenhouse for up to 110 days. Some plants were also grown in other nursery pots that contained local soil only (i.e. without the biosolids.) Some pots were irrigated with wastewater effluent and some with clean water. The

research demonstrates that chemical contaminants found in wastewater and sewage sludge may accumulate in plants grown in fields receiving applications of biosolids and/or wastewater effluent. The levels and accumulations varied among the chemicals measured and between the two treatment types. The report was published in the journal, Environmental Science & Technology.

Source: <http://www.environmentalhealthnews.org/ehs/newscience/soy-plants-accumulate-drugs-antibacterials-from-biosolids>

33. *August 29, WBZ 38 Boston* – (National) **Ground beef recall affects MA BJ's wholesale Clubs.** Thousands of pounds of ground beef are being recalled across the Northeast after an E. coli scare. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) said Pennsylvania-based Cargill Meat Solutions Corp is recalling 8,500 pounds of ground beef that may be contaminated. The recall is happening at BJ's Wholesale Club stores in eight states. "The ground beef that is being recalled had a use by date of July 1. If people still have the product it would likely be frozen," said a BJ's spokeswoman. "The store is going to be sending out letters to all members who purchased the item." The 42-pound cases of beef are being recalled from BJ's in Massachusetts, including Attleboro, Auburn, Leominster, Plymouth, Revere, Stoneham, Taunton, Waltham, and Weymouth. The USDA said three people have been sickened due to E. coli-related illnesses — two in Maine, and one in New York.
Source: <http://wbztv.com/local/ground.beef.recall.2.1885001.html>
34. *August 28, WFTV 9 Orlando* – (Florida) **Man arrested for bomb threats.** Police in Mount Dora, Florida arrested a man they said called in bomb threats to several fast food chains. The suspect bonded out of the Lake County jail August 28. Investigators said he was unhappy with the service at the Wendy's on SR 441, so he called in bomb threats to that business, as well as the Wendy's in Eustis and Leesburg. Police told WFTV they believe the suspect also called in a bomb threat to the McDonald's on SR 441 in Mount Dora last week.
Source: <http://www.wftv.com/countybycounty/24798704/detail.html>
35. *August 27, KENS 5 San Antonio* – (Texas) **New investigator seeks answers in E. coli cases at pizza shop.** The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has taken over the investigation into how sewage found its way into the water well that supplies Fralo's Art of Pizza, a restaurant in Leon Springs, Texas. At first, San Antonio Water System officials said no one was affected by the August 19 overflow of its lines, but then 24 restaurant customers were sickened from E. coli. Health department inspectors allowed Fralo's to re-open this past weekend after water tests came back negative. It is still a mystery how the sewage got into the well.
Source: <http://www.kens5.com/news/New-investigator-seeks-answers-in-E-coli-cases-at-pizza-shop-101638553.html>
36. *August 27, CNN* – (Louisiana; Florida) **Louisiana Gulf waters reopened for fishing.** The federal government has reopened 4,281 square miles of federal waters off the coast of western Louisiana to commercial and recreational fishing, according to the head of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The region

being reopened represents 7.4 percent of the total area in the Gulf of Mexico that had been closed off prior to August 27. More than 48,000 square miles of federal waters — roughly 20 percent of the total federal waters in the Gulf — remain closed to fishermen. At its height, the fishing ban resulting from the April 20 BP oil rig explosion stretched over 88,000 square miles, or 37 percent of federal Gulf waters. The western Louisiana waters represent the third area in the Gulf to be reopened to fishing. A region off the Florida peninsula was reopened July 22, and another area off the Florida panhandle was reopened August 10, according to the NOAA head. In order for an area of the Gulf to be reopened, no oil can be present or expected to be present in the foreseeable future. Water samples taken from the area must pass both a sensory and chemical analysis.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/08/27/gulf.oil.disaster/>

37. *August 27, Riverside Press-Enterprise* – (California; International) **Health officials warn of tainted candy.** The California Department of Public Health warns people not to eat Cocon Grape Gummy 100 percent candy after tests found it contains high lead levels. Consumers who have the candy should throw it away. Cocon Grape Gummy 100 percent candy is manufactured by Cocon Food Industries in Malaysia, and imported and distributed by U-Can Food Trading in Los Angeles. Pregnant women and parents of children who might have eaten the candy should talk to their doctors to determine the need for medical tests.

Source:

http://www.pe.com/localnews/stories/PE_News_Local_D_candy28.342fa7b.html

38. *August 27, Associated Press* – (California; Arizona; Texas) **Frozen fruit bars recalled after typhoid outbreak.** Fruiti Pops, Inc. of Santa Fe Springs, California, has recalled its mamey (mah-MAY') frozen fruit bars because of a possible link to a rare U.S. outbreak of typhoid fever. The company said August 26 that the fruit bars were distributed in California, Arizona and Texas since May 2009. Fruiti Pops said retail stores, ice cream trucks and vending machines sold the frozen fruit bars, which have the UPC number 763734000097. The company said the frozen fruit bars were made from contaminated mamey pulp that Goya Foods, Inc. voluntarily recalled August 12, after it was linked to a typhoid fever outbreak in California and Nevada. So far, no illnesses have been reported from the mamey fruit bars. Mamey or zapote, is a fruit popular in Latin America, and the Caribbean.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jn3CmEizI31xwI8OZJiKsWVIBo0AD9HRFMAG2>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

39. *August 29, TheState.com* – (South Carolina) **Some lake fish found tainted.** New details of fish contamination in Lake Wateree, South Carolina, show cancer-causing PCBs were found in 65 percent of the fish tested by state officials last winter. The study

prompted state health regulators to warn people to limit the amount of largemouth bass, striped bass and blue catfish they eat from the lake, The State reported August 25. Details released since then show the extent of the contamination: The toxic PCBs were found in 22 of 34 fish examined, or 65 percent. All 15 bass and four of five blue catfish tested positive for PCBs, according to records from the state department of health and environmental control. Three of 14 black crappie tested also had PCB contamination; state regulators said they still are safe to eat without limits. Lake Wateree, about 30 minutes north of Columbia, is only the second reservoir in South Carolina to carry PCB health advisories. The reservoir also is the only major lake in central South Carolina's Catawba River basin to carry a PCB advisory.

Source: <http://www.postandcourier.com/news/2010/aug/29/some-lake-fish-found-tainted/>

40. *August 27, Detroit News* – (Michigan) **EPA to focus on source of PCB spill.** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) officials said August 26 they plan to shift focus from cleaning up PCB toxins in sewer drains and some canals off Jefferson Avenue in St. Clair Shores, Michigan, to finding the source of the decade-long contamination. “Finding the source is our primary focus before we look at a remedy,” the remedial project manager for the EPA said during a public meeting. Federal, state and local officials have spent more than \$10 million to purge the compound from the canals and groundwater. Now, the EPA could place the 10 Drain site on the federal Superfund list next month, which would make it eligible for millions in funding. The project manager said they plan underground field sampling, including in areas around the drain. That work would take place early in 2011. Many of the close to 100 residents told the EPA they were tired of waiting for answers. Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) were found in the 10 Mile Drain area in 2001 when the county collected sediment samples for a proposed dredging project. Toxins have been concentrated in canals behind Lange and Revere streets. The chemicals were banned in the 1970s.
Source:
<http://www.detnews.com/article/20100827/METRO03/8270367/1412/METRO03/EPA-to-focus-on-source-of-PCB-spill>
41. *August 27, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **Colorado tells mining company to redouble cleaning effort.** Cotter Corp., which had agreed to remove tainted water from its closed uranium mine northwest of Golden, Colorado, has chosen to pump and clean surface ponds only, drawing a new warning from state officials. The now-defunct Schwartzwalder mine is suspected of having contaminated water outside the 2,000-foot shaft, and inside it. The company, however, is treating only alluvial ponds and not water inside the mine. “[State regulators] have ordered Cotter to pump and treat from the alluvium and the mine pool,” said the Colorado director of mining, reclamation, and safety. State officials fined Cotter \$55,000, then suspended all but \$2,500 on the condition that Cotter initiate a cleanup by August 31. State regulators “believe the mine pool poses a significant risk to surface water [and are] vigorously pursuing the enforcement action,” the director said ... Cotter “strongly disagrees” with regulators, according to a June letter sent to the Colorado attorney general from a Cotter attorney. Although the company believes it did not violate any regulations, the letter said it

“recognizes the importance of taking action for the situation at Ralston Creek.” The Schwartzwalder mine, which Cotter acquired in 1965, produced more than 16 million tons of uranium for nuclear weapons and power plants. The mine closed in 2000, and water-treatment facilities were dismantled. A state mining inspector reported contamination in 2007.

Source: http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_15907734

42. *August 27, Chattanooga Times Free Press* – (Tennessee) **Sewage violation puts plant under more scrutiny.** Tennessee pollution regulators have slapped the city of Chattanooga with a notice of violation for the 12- to 14-hour sewage spill at Browns Ferry August 5. The state’s Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) also is requiring the city to aerate and monitor the water in the narrow inlet of the Browns Ferry Marina until the water quality levels there “meet and sustain” state standards even when the mechanical water stirrer now in place is turned off. “The standard is 5 milligrams [of oxygen] per liter, and in anything below that, game fish are not happy,” said the head of TDEC’s water pollution office in Chattanooga. “When this started there wasn’t even two-tenths of 1 milligram of oxygen left in the water,” he said. City officials said the spill occurred after a lightning strike caused a power outage, and about 100,000 gallons of untreated sewage spilled into a bottle-necked marina bay on the Tennessee River. Within hours, about 3,600 fish died, according to environmental reports.

Source: <http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/2010/aug/27/sewage-violation-puts-plant-under-more-scrutiny/>

43. *August 27, KHBS 40 Fort Smith* – (Arkansas) **Chemical spill at UA poisons creek, kills fish.** The University of Arkansas in Fayetteville discovered August 26 that a chemical spill coming from a building on campus leaked into a creek and killed fish, said the university’s manager of environmental health and safety. An outside contractor hired by the university to repair and clean the roof of the HPER (Health, Physical Education and Recreation) Building did not seal off drains from the roof. “The roof drains go to the storm drains. The storm drains go to the creek,” she said. Cleaning chemicals drained from the roof down into Mullins Creek near the university. It took the university 2 days to determine where the chemicals were leaking. The spill killed dozens of the fish, and the water remained murky August 27.

Source: <http://www.4029tv.com/news/24785756/detail.html>

For another story, see item [35](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

44. *August 30, Lower Hudson Journal News* – (New York) **Hunt for suspect who planted suspicious black bag at Westchester Medical Center.** Detectives are hunting for the person who left a black bag of medical waste with a threatening message for police at the Westchester Medical Center campus in Valhalla, New York August 29. The bag

was spotted outside the Behavioral Health Center, and drew police, firefighters and hazardous materials experts, including the Westchester County bomb squad. Police would not say what message was written on the black bag, except that it was a threat to police. Inside the bag was medical waste. It was not immediately clear where it came from, police said. It was the second suspicious package to draw a large emergency response in three days. On August 27, a silver package left on train tracks in Irvington was blown up by police using a water cannon without determining exactly what it was, although officials said it was not an explosive.

Source: <http://www.lohud.com/article/20100830/NEWS02/8300346/-1/newsfront/Hunt-for-suspect-who-planted-suspicious-black-bag-at-Westchester-Medical-Center>

45. *August 29, San Antonio Express-News* – (Texas) **North Side hospital, residential customers without power.** Power has been restored to most of the 1,500 CPS Energy customers in San Antonio, Texas, including a hospital, that lost electricity August 29 after two separate vehicles crashed into a transformer and a utility pole at Kindred Hospital, leading to an underground line failure, officials said. The hospital was still without power hours after the crash, but a woman who answered the telephone at the acute care facility said it is open. The 59-bed hospital's Web site states it specializes in respiratory, ICU, inpatient rehabilitation and wound care. The driver's condition was not immediately clear. Also causing outages on the North Side was an underground line, which failed for an unknown reason, and affected about 200 customers. Those customers remained without power at 10 a.m. August 29. Officials said crews would be working throughout the day to determine the cause of the failure, and to fix the outages. Source:

http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local_news/north_side_hospital_residential_customers_without_power_101752133.html

46. *August 26, Reuters* – (National) **CDC backs away from decades-old flu death estimate.** The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is backing away from its decades-old estimate of the number of people who die annually from seasonal flu, instead saying deaths vary widely from year to year. Instead of the estimated 36,000 annual flu deaths in the United States, the actual number in the past 30 years has ranged from a low of about 3,300 deaths to a high of nearly 49,000, the CDC said August 26. The estimates do not take into account the H1N1 swine flu pandemic of 2009, but they do suggest that some flu strains are more deadly than others. The long-held 36,000 estimate was based on data from the 1990s when H3N2 viruses were prominent. The new analysis suggests that in years when H3N2 flu strains are strongest, flu-related deaths are 2.7 times higher than in years when H1N1 or influenza B viruses were prominent. Because of that variability, it is more accurate to use a range of deaths, the CDC said, but that likely will change over time with better diagnostic tests and better ways of tracking flu deaths.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE67P3NA20100826>

Government Facilities Sector

47. *August 30, Mid Columbia Tri-City Herald* – (Washington) **Vapor stacks raised at Hanford to increase safety.** Workers are raising the height of exhaust stacks that emit fumes to ventilate tanks at the Hanford decommissioned nuclear production complex in Hanford, Washington that hold radioactive and hazardous chemical wastes. It is a step to better protect workers who have reported that breathing in the chemical vapors gave them headaches, scratchy throats and watery eyes. Officials said the change also will help them prepare to resume retrieving waste from underground tanks. Waste retrieval stopped near the beginning of summer when Washington River Protection Solutions hit an obstruction hidden in the sludge in Tank C-104, one of 142 single-shell tanks at Hanford that still have radioactive waste. Work is under way to pump waste from leak-prone tanks into sturdier double-shell tanks until the vitrification plant is operating to treat the waste for disposal. The DOE contractor has been working to prepare to start emptying another tank, Tank C-111, and expects to be ready around Labor Day. Work will resume after the improvements to the vapor-protection system. It had been halted twice and then resumed during retrieval from Tank C-104 because workers were concerned about the vapors.

Source: <http://www.tri-cityherald.com/2010/08/30/1148290/vapor-stacks-raised-at-hanford.html>

48. *August 30, Fosters Daily Democrat* – (New Hampshire) **Haz-mat team removes nitric acid container from Wakefield's Paul School's closet.** Wakefield, New Hampshire fire crews called in help from the Carroll County Hazardous Materials Team August 25 to dispose of a "compromised container" of nitric acid at the Paul School. A spokesman said the fire department was called to the school around 10:30 a.m. after a teacher discovered the top of a container of some type of chemical had corroded off inside a storage closet in a science room. The spokesman said the container was inside its own box at the time of its discovery. "The contents of the container had potential to oxidize into the air, and it could have caused respiratory problems," the spokesman said. "We took a look and quickly realized we couldn't touch it without the proper equipment." It was determined the container was holding nitric acid, a chemical compound with highly corrosive tendencies, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. A portion of the school was evacuated as a result of the finding, the spokesman said.

Source:

http://www.fosters.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100830/GJNEWS_01/708309908&template=RochesterRegion

49. *August 28, Information Warfare Monitor* – (International) **Crime or espionage? Zeus** is a well known crimeware tool kit that is readily available online. Typically, Zeus has been associated with banking fraud. Recently, there have been a series of attacks using the Zeus malware that appear to be less motivated by bank fraud and more focused on acquiring data from compromised computers. The themes in the e-mails — often sent out to .mil and .gov e-mail addresses — focus on intelligence and government issues. After the user receives such an e-mail, and downloads the file referenced in the e-mail,

his or her computer will likely (due to the low AV coverage) become compromised by the ZeuS malware used by the attackers and will begin communicating with a command and control server. It will then download an additional piece of malware, an “infostealer,” which will begin uploading documents from the compromised computer to a drop zone under the control of the attackers. What appears to be a one-off attack using Zeus, the author believes, is actually another round of a series of Zeus attacks. These attacks appear to be aimed at those interested in intelligence issues and those in the government and military, although the targeting appears to be general rather than targeted. Details of such an attack were recently posted on contagiodump.blogspot.com. The e-mail used in the attack appeared to be from “ifc@ifc.nato.int” with the subject “Intelligence Fusion Centre” and contained links to a report [EuropeanUnion_MilitaryOperations_EN.pdf](#) that exploits CVE-2010-1240 in order to drop a Zeus binary.

Source: <http://www.infowar-monitor.net/2010/08/crime-or-espionage/>

50. *August 27, WJZ 13 Baltimore* – (Maryland) **Helicopter makes emergency landing during exercise.** A Maryland National Guard Blackhawk helicopter made an emergency landing in Havre de Grace after a training mission gone awry. The chopper landed on a baseball field at Havre de Grace Middle School August 26 after a mechanical problem with one of the engines. The Guard said the helicopter’s crew decided to land after hearing a loud bang. “The engine had a catastrophic failure. No fault of the pilot’s but the internal components of the engine failed,” said a Maryland National Guard spokesman.
Source: <http://wjz.com/local/national.guard.helicopter.2.1883179.html>
51. *August 27, InformationWeek* – (Virginia) **Virginia repairs SAN failure that caused statewide outage.** Virginia’s IT operations arm has repaired the cause of a statewide IT system failure that affected online services and network operations of more than 20 of its agencies, including the Department of Motor Vehicles. The outage happened when an EMC storage area network (SAN) and its redundancy failed the afternoon of August 25, according to the Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA). When this occurred, 228 servers attached to the network — which host shared applications and software used statewide — could not access data. By the afternoon of August 27, the SAN had been repaired and technicians were bringing servers back online. Agencies also began testing applications to see if they were working properly again, said a VITA spokeswoman. Virginia’s IT system is maintained by VITA, and Northrop Grumman, which signed a \$2.3 billion contract with VITA in 2005 to look after communications and computer services, a move deemed risky, and which has been criticized by state officials.
Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/news/government/state-local/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=227100694&subSection=News>
52. *August 27, New York Times* – (National) **U.S. analyst is indicted in leak case.** A federal grand jury in Washington D.C. has indicted a State Department analyst suspected of disclosing top-secret information about North Korea to Fox News, the third time the Obama administration has filed criminal charges accusing people of leaks

to the news media. The indictment, dated August 19 and unsealed August 27, named a specialist in nuclear proliferation who worked as a contractor for the State Department. The suspect, who has worked as a high-level foreign affairs analyst for a decade for various federal agencies, is accused of disclosing the information in June 2009 and of lying to the FBI in September 2009. The analyst pleaded not guilty August 27 in federal district court, and was released on \$100,000 bond. A person familiar with the investigation said it involved a Fox News report on North Korea's likely reaction to a United Nations Security Council resolution, which was then pending, that condemned its nuclear and ballistic missile tests. Fox News said at the time that it was "withholding some details about the sources and methods by which American intelligence agencies learned of the North's plans."

Source:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/28/world/americas/28leak.html?src=un&feedurl=http://json8.nytimes.com/pages/world/americas/index.jsonp>

For another story, see item [43](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

53. *August 27, Homeland Security Today* – (National) **RFID no panacea for prisons.** Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) systems have been frequently touted as a solution for prison systems, which can increase the efficiency of managing inmate populations, improve monitoring and control of inmates, and reduce staff time, violence, injuries and actual and attempted escapes. Despite this potential, however, there is as of yet no empirical foundation to validate claims about the technology in actual correctional environments, according to a new report. Entitled Tracking Inmates and Locating Staff with Active Radio-Frequency Identification (RFID) and prepared by the Rand Corporation and National Institute of Justice, the report documents the results of a case study of an RFID installation at the Central Detention Facility (CDF) operated by the District of Columbia Department of Corrections. "The original plan called for the design phase to last several months, with construction beginning in August 2008," the report noted. "However, for several reasons, the design phase took substantially longer than was originally anticipated, lasting until November 2008." One problem was the vendor's initial time estimate did not account for the architecture of the facility's 18 individual housing units. This failure led to inaccuracy, and the need to make modifications and test them. Also needed, the report said were "written RFID policies and operating procedures, addressing such topics as when personnel must wear an RFID unit, procedures for using RFID to control access privileges to specific areas throughout the facility, directions for inmates wearing RFID devices, and how to report problems with RFID units."

Source: <http://www.hstoday.us/content/view/14502/128/>

54. *August 26, Gwinnett Daily Post* – (Georgia) **Officials warn FBI alarm calls are phony.** The robotic voice at the other end of a resident's cell phone line made an offer

she absolutely could refuse. The Lawrenceville resident received the 9:36 a.m. call Friday that she feels was part of a scam, a theory backed by FBI officials who say the call was a variation on a widespread and timeworn scheme. The automated message, according to the resident, went as follows: “This is the FBI calling. Due to all the home invasions in your area, we are installing free alarms. If you want the FBI to install a free alarm in your home, press 1.” The only numbers the resident pressed, she said, were for the Gwinnett County Police Department, who connected her with an FBI agent. “How the heck did they get my cell phone number?” the resident, 52, a former police dispatcher, worried last week. “My hands started to shake.” An FBI Atlanta spokesman said the calls are used inappropriately by fly-by-night companies to snag consumers. “The FBI does not participate in any of these sales pitches or product endorsements,” he said. “That should be a clue right away, if anybody should get such a phone call.” Illegal as the calls may seem, the spokesman could not recall that any company has been prosecuted in the scheme for purporting themselves as the FBI. Source: <http://www.gwinnettdailypost.com/localnews/headlines/101621023.html>

55. *August 26, Government Computer News* – (California) **California to become the first state with targeted mobile alert system.** In the next few months, California will become the nation’s first state to deploy a mass mobile alerting system to alert residents and visitors in specific locations about potential emergency situations such as terrorist attacks, wildfires, storms, child abductions, or nearby shootings. Unlike the current alerting system, which notifies individuals via cable television or calls to their landline phones, the new system can send text messages to mobile phones, and — more importantly — can target specific geographic areas, which could be as large as a city or as small as a few blocks. The system can also reach individuals who may not have landlines, may be visiting the area, or may not be in an area where they have immediate access to landlines, such as a shopping mall or sporting arena. The alerts will include vibration and an audio attention signal for wireless customers with hearing or vision disabilities. Source: <http://gcn.com/articles/2010/08/26/california-mobile-alert-system.aspx>

For more stories, see items [24](#) and [25](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology Sector

56. *August 30, Help Net Security* – (International) **Too many disclose sensitive information on social networks.** Social networking users should be careful when accepting friend requests, and must be conscious of the data they share. According to a new study by BitDefender, social network users do not appear to be preoccupied with the real identity of the people they meet online or about the details they disclose while chatting with total strangers. The study revealed that 94 percent of those asked to “friend” the test profile, an unknown, attractive young woman, accepted the request without knowing who the requester really was. The study sample group included 2,000 users from all over the world registered on one of the most popular social networks.

These users were randomly chosen in order to cover different aspects: sex (1,000 females, 1,000 males), age (the sample ranged from 17 to 65 years with a mean age of 27.3 years), professional affiliation, interests etc. In the first step, the users were only requested to add the unknown test profile as their friend, while in the second step, several conversations with randomly selected users aimed to determine what kind of details they would disclose. The study showed that more than 86 percent of the users who accepted the test-profile's friend request work in the IT industry, of which 31 percent work in IT Security. It also found the most frequent reason for accepting the test profile's friend request was her "lovely face" (53 percent.) After a half an hour conversation, 10 percent disclosed personal sensitive information, such as: address, phone number, mother's and father's name, etc — information usually requested as answers to password recovery questions. Two hours later, 73 percent siphoned what appears to be confidential information from their workplace, such as future strategies, plans, as well as unreleased technologies/software.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=9793>

57. *August 30, Computerworld* – (International) **American Eagle Outfitters learns a painful service provider lesson.** As American Eagle Outfitters learned in July, even if a company does everything right to ensure disaster recovery and business continuity plans are in place, Murphy's Law sometimes takes over. And problems can be compounded if one rely on an outsourcer for disaster recovery services. The multibillion-dollar clothing retailer suffered an 8-day Web site outage because its Oracle backup utility failed — and then an IBM disaster recovery site was not up and running as it should have been, according to a report from StorefrontBacktalk.com. American Eagle did not dispute the basic account of what happened, though a spokeswoman said a few details were incorrect. According to a reporter from StorefrontBacktalk.com, which monitors retail Web sites, the outage began with a series of server failures. The reporter, who said he spoke with an unnamed IT source at American Eagle, said a storage drive failed at an IBM off-site hosting facility. That failure was followed by a secondary backup disk drive failure. Once the drives were replaced, the company attempted a restore of about 400GB of data from backup, but the Oracle backup utility failed, possibly as a result of data corruption. Finally, American Eagle attempted to restore its data from its disaster recovery site, only to discover the site was not ready and could not get the logs up and running. In an e-mail response to questions from Computerworld, an American Eagle spokeswoman said StorefrontBacktalk.com was "off track" by saying the retailer should have directed Web traffic to its mobile Web site. That is because the mobile site was also down.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9182159/American_Eagle_Outfitters_learns_a_painful_service_provider_lesson

58. *August 27, The Register* – (International) **Once-prolific Pushdo botnet crippled.** Security researchers have disrupted the botnet known as Pushdo, a coup that over August 26 and 27 has almost completely choked the torrent of junkmail from the once-prolific spam network. Researchers from the security intelligence firm LastLine said they identified a total of 30 servers used as Pushdo command and control channels

and managed to get the plug pulled on 20 of them. As a result, the torrent of junkmail spewing from it dropped to almost zero August 26, according to figures from M86 Security Labs. Also known as Cutwail, Pushdo has long maintained a strong presence. It is known for spam that attempts to trick recipients into installing malware, and it also excels at hiding itself from intrusion-prevention systems, security researches have said. Its output has varied over the years with estimates as high as 20 percent of the world's spam at some points. Pushdo was also notable for other technical feats, including its ability to pierce Microsoft Live by defeating its audio captchas.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/08/27/pushdo_botnet_crippled/

For more stories, see items [51](#) and [63](#)

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at sos@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <https://www.it-isac.org>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Communications Sector

59. *August 28, KGUN 9 Tucson* – (Arizona) **Power outage at KGUN 9 affects broadcast signal.** A major storm August 28 hit the east side of Tucson, Arizona, striking the KGUN 9 studios with a lightning bolt, killing power. It happened at around 6:45 p.m. The power loss affected the over-the-air signal on KGUN 9 and KWBA.

Source: <http://www.kgun9.com/Global/story.asp?S=13061552>

60. *August 27, Mt. Carmel Daily Republican Register* – (Illinois) **Fiber line cut in Southern Illinois hits NewWave customers for hours.** According to the vice president of marketing for NewWave Communications, a cut fiber optic line August 26 led to a 7-hour outage of Internet services, e-mail and cable television reception in Wabash County, Illinois. The outage was between McLeansboro and Enfield, Illinois, where a 24-count fiber line suffered the damage. "Most services were restored about 6 p.m." he said. The outage affected about 4,500 customers, and occurred around 10:30-11 a.m.

Source: http://www.tristate-media.com/drr/news/local_news/article_49505858-b1f0-11df-99c3-001cc4c002e0.html

61. *August 27, Canton Repository* – (Ohio) **Severed line causes phone outages.** A third-party contractor working August 26 near a section of Cleveland Avenue NW in Canton, Ohio, accidentally cut through an AT&T line. The accident caused customers in areas near and north of 30th Street to lose phone and/or Internet service. An AT&T Ohio spokesman said he was not certain of the number of customers affected, but added the company had fielded more than 100 reports of loss of service. "The good news is the

estimated time of restoral is (Saturday) afternoon,” he said. The Stark Federal Credit Union branch at 3426 Cleveland Ave. NW is among those without service. The chief executive said that the office was closed August 27 and may not open August 28, either.

Source: <http://www.cantonrep.com/newsnow/x2077301906/Severed-line-causes-phone-outages>

62. *August 27, WINK 9 Fort Meyers* – (Florida) **2 charged with stealing copper wire from Collier County tower.** Information sharing between law enforcement agencies and detective work in Collier County, Florida, helped lead to the arrests of two men — including a career criminal — on multiple felony charges after deputies said the men stole copper wire from a communications tower owned by Renda Broadcasting in East Naples August 26. A 28-year-old man from Golden Gate, and a 32-year-old man from Golden Gate were each charged with burglary, grand theft \$300 to \$5,000 and possession of burglary tools. A search of the van turned up fresh-cut copper wire and cables, along with large bolt cutters, a pry bar and large channel lock pliers. The suspects were arrested and booked into the Collier County jail. The 32-year-old suspect was additionally charged with two felony counts of possession of a controlled substance after deputies found a small plastic bag containing Xanax and Oxycontin pills in his possession during the traffic stop, according to arrest reports.

Source: <http://www.winknews.com/Local-Florida/2010-08-27/2-charged-with-stealing-copper-wire-from-Collier-County-tower#ixzz0xpEUUyh2>

63. *August 27, IDG News Service* – (International) **Research experiment disrupts Internet, for some.** An experiment run by Duke University and a European group responsible for managing Internet resources went wrong August 27, disrupting a small percentage of Internet traffic. The damage could have been far worse however, and the incident shows just how fragile one of the Internet’s core protocols really is, security experts said. The problem started just before 9 a.m. Greenwich Mean Time August 27 and lasted less than half an hour. It was kicked off when RIPE NCC (Reseaux IP Europeens Network Coordination Centre) and Duke ran an experiment that involved the Border Gateway Protocol (BGP) — used by routers to know where to send their traffic on the Internet. RIPE started announcing BGP routes that were configured a little differently from normal because they used an experimental data format. RIPE’s data was soon passed from router to router on the Internet, and within minutes it became clear that this was causing problems. “During this announcement, some Internet service providers reported problems with their networking infrastructure,” wrote RIPE NCC’s in a note posted to the NANOG (North American Network Operators Group) discussion list. “Immediately after discovering this, we stopped the announcement and started investigating the problem. Our investigation has shown that the problem was likely to have been caused by certain router types incorrectly modifying the experimental attribute and then further announcing the malformed route to their peers.”

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9182558/Research_experiment_disrupts_Internet_for_some

Commercial Facilities Sector

64. *August 30, KXII 12 Sherman* – (Oklahoma) **Explosives scare at storage unit.** Business is back to normal for a local storage unit company in Madill, Oklahoma, August 28 after the Red Door Mini Storage found “explosives” when cleaning out a storage unit. The bomb squad, along with police, fire officials and other local authorities were reportedly on the scene from about 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. It is unclear if any charges will be pressed against the former storage unit renter.
Source: <http://www.kxii.com/home/headlines/101776188.html>
65. *August 29, Des Moines Register* – (Iowa) **Meth lab is blamed in Des Moines apartment blaze.** Two men allegedly cooking the drug methamphetamine caused an explosion that rocked a south-side Des Moines, Iowa, apartment complex and sparked a fire that destroyed 30 units August 28. Seventy to 100 residents were displaced by the fire. The suspects both suffered burns in the blast and were eventually transported to University of Iowa Hospitals in Iowa City for their injuries. No charges had been filed as of August 28, but an investigation is ongoing. The Red Cross assisted people left homeless by the blaze. The building is a complete loss, said a Des Moines Fire Department spokesman.
Source: <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20100829/NEWS/8290335/Meth-lab-is-blamed-in-Des-Moines-apartment-blaze>
66. *August 29, Murfreesboro Daily News Journal* – (Tennessee) **Authorities investigate shots fired near Islamic Center site.** Rutherford County Sheriff’s deputies, the FBI, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives are investigating a complaint about shots being fired near the construction site of the Islamic Center of Murfreesboro, Tennessee on Veals Road off Bradyville Pike. A group of congregation members were at the site looking at the damage done to construction equipment August 28 when they heard nine shots fired from two directions. They reported hearing six shots coming from one direction, and about 3 minutes later they heard three more shots from another direction, said a congregation member and Middle Tennessee State University professor. He was not sure if the shots were being fired at the Muslim group, but in the aftermath of the weekend vandalism, he said they felt it necessary to report.
Source:
<http://www.dnj.com/article/20100829/NEWS01/100829002/1002/Authorities+investigate+shots+fired+near+Islamic+Center+site>
67. *August 28, Associated Press* – (Idaho) **Bomb squad detonates explosive device in N. Idaho.** Police in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, said a bomb squad has safely detonated a briefcase containing an explosive device left several blocks from the North Idaho Fair being held at the Kootenai County Fairgrounds. Police said the briefcase was reported by a passer-by heading to the fair about 6 p.m. August 27. The briefcase had the words “Boom” and “Warning do not touch” written on it in black ink. A Spokane County, Washington, bomb squad blew up the device about 10 p.m. Police said the briefcase

held some kind of explosive device, but experts may not be able to determine what kind until next week. Police said no one was injured and there was no property damage.
Source: http://www.seattlepi.com/local/6420ap_id_briefcase_explosive.html

68. *August 28, Battle Creek Enquirer* – (Michigan) **Police trigger explosive device found in Emmett.** The Battle Creek Police Department Bomb Squad August 27 destroyed a small explosive device found near an Emmett Township business in Michigan. An Emmett public safety officer said the small, makeshift bomb “would have caused significant damage, but probably wasn’t enough to topple a structure.” The Emmett Township Department of Public Safety was called just before 6 p.m. to the Lakeside Center, a small strip mall in front of Lakeside Apartments on East Michigan Avenue, on reports of a suspicious package. Officers discovered a cylindrical object about 6 to 8 inches long in a plastic bag near the building. While fire trucks and police cars blocked off the area, the bomb squad destroyed the object with a remote-controlled device. Later investigation of the remnants revealed to police the item was a homemade bomb with a fuse.

Source:

<http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20100828/NEWS01/8280310/Police-trigger-explosive-device-found-in-Emmett>

69. *August 28, CBS & Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **Fire at Tenn. mosque building site ruled arson.** Federal officials are investigating an arson-fire that started overnight August 28 at the site of a new Islamic center in a Nashville, Tennessee suburb. A special agent of the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) told CBS News the fire destroyed one piece of construction equipment and damaged three others. Gas was poured over the equipment to start the fire. The ATF, FBI and Rutherford County Sheriff’s Office are conducting a joint investigation into the fire. WTVF reports firefighters were alerted by a passerby who saw flames at the site. One large earth hauler was set on fire before the suspect or suspects left the scene. Digging had begun at the site, which was planned as a place of worship for the approximately 250 Muslim families in the Murfreesboro area, but no structure had been built yet. The center had operated for years out of a small business suite. Planning members said the new building, which was being constructed next to a church, would help accommodate the area’s growing Muslim community. However, opponents of a new Islamic center said they believe the mosque will be more than a place of prayer; they are afraid the 15-acre site that was once farmland will be turned into a terrorist training ground for Muslim militants bent on overthrowing the U.S. government.

Source: <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2010/08/28/national/main6814690.shtml>

70. *August 27, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **100 affected by fumes at MGM Grand pool in Vegas.** High concentrations of a chemical similar to bleach seeped into a pool at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas, Nevada, August 27, causing hotel officials to evacuate some 1,500 guests, and sending at least 26 people to local hospitals with breathing problems. Sodium hypochlorite went into the hotel’s lazy river pool when a valve used to control the chemical malfunctioned and remained on. About 100 people had trouble breathing but did not need to go to hospitals. Those treated needed to breathe from

oxygen tanks to get the chemicals out of their lungs. The chemical went into the water and into the air, but fire officials determined less than 3 hours later that the area was OK and turned it back over to the hotel's owners, MGM Resorts International. A Spring Valley Hospital spokeswoman said five patients taken there were all in good condition.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/08/27/AR2010082704523.html>

For another story, see item [71](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

National Monuments and Icons Sector

71. *August 29, Marysville Appeal-Democrat* – (California) **Boaters forced off water by wildfire near Bullards Bar Dam.** Houseboat occupants and other boaters on Bullards Bar Reservoir were required to evacuate because of the Bullards Fire, which had consumed 875 acres in eastern Yuba County, California by late August 28, according to the U.S. Forest Service. The fire, which started August 27 south of the Bullards Bar Dam, was spreading north on the west side of the reservoir, said a Forest Service spokeswoman. According to a Cal Fire Web update, the fire was 10 percent contained. The Yuba County Sheriff's Department ordered the boaters out because of the danger of flying embers and extremely poor visibility on the water. An undetermined number of residents were evacuated from the area, which was described as not heavily populated. The cause of the fire, which started along the North Yuba River south of the dam, remained undetermined. About 800 firefighters were involved in fighting the fire. Equipment that was used to battle the blaze included 20 engines, 10 bulldozers, four helicopters and five air tankers.

Source: <http://www.willows-journal.com/news/bullards-98529-marysville-fire-bar.html>

72. *August 29, Associated Press* – (South Dakota; Nebraska) **Fire crews contain fires in SD, western Neb.** Fire crews continue to monitor two blazes in western Nebraska and South Dakota that have scorched more than 1,200 acres. Officials with the South Dakota Wildland Fire Suppression Division said a fire southeast of Chadron, Nebraska, was contained August 28, but firefighters were still working August 29 to extinguish the blaze. Another fire west of South Dakota's Custer State Park was contained August 28 after it tore threw 65 acres. The fires were among five in the region that started August 27. A sixth was ignited the next day. Fire officials initially attributed all the fires to lightning strikes, but later said investigators determined the Nebraska fire was sparked by an all-terrain vehicle, and believed the Custer State Park fire also was human caused.

Source: <http://www.ksfy.com/Global/story.asp?S=13063236>

73. *August 28, Seattle Times* – (Washington) **Fire hits historic Argosy Cruises tour boat.** A historic 110-foot tour boat belonging to Argosy Cruises caught fire early August 28 while it was docked at Marina Park in Kirkland, Washington. No one was

injured. Damage costs are expected to exceed \$60,000, firefighters said. Argosy Cruises is using a replacement vessel to keep the regular Lake Washington tour schedule of three daily trips on weekends and two weekdays, the marketing director said. Firefighters were called about 6:50 a.m. with reports of smoke coming from the vessel, the M.V. Kirkland, a 1924 ferryboat that is on the Washington Heritage Register. Argosy refurbished the ferry in 1996. Fire crews arrived within 4 minutes — a response that drew raves from Argosy officials, relieved that the wooden vessel was saved. Besides the engine room fire below decks, there were small “spot fires” in surrounding areas, the Kirkland Fire marshal said. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Source:

http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2012748103_argosyfire29m.html

74. *August 27, Salem Statesman Journal* – (Oregon) **Forest fires near Detroit grow in size.** Several forest fires burning near Detroit, Oregon, are growing in size, according to the U.S. Forest Service. Several smaller fires in the View Lake fire complex are burning more than 3,000 acres, according to an update August 27. The fires are burning in Mt. Hood National Forest northeast of Detroit near Olallie Lake. The blazes were likely caused by lightning August 17, according to the Forest Service. Part of the Jefferson Wilderness area is closed because of the fire activity.

Source: <http://www.statesmanjournal.com/article/20100827/UPDATE/100827045/-1/update>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Dams Sector

75. *August 30, Santa Rosa Press Democrat* – (California) **Controlled burn at Warm Springs Dam today at 6 p.m.** Firefighters are slated to set fire to the face of Warm Springs Dam at Lake Sonoma near Healdsburg, California around 6 p.m. August 30 in an annual controlled burn. The fire is a collaboration involving fire departments from Healdsburg, Geyserville, Cloverdale and Cal Fire. It's an opportunity for training while burning off flammable grasses on the dam's face, said the battalion chief with Cal Fire. It will also allow the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to inspect the dam for signs of erosion. The burn will be relatively small with the focus on training, but smoke will still be visible in the area. A second larger burn September 1 will scorch the majority of the dam's 80-acre face.

Source:

<http://www.pressdemocrat.com/article/20100830/ARTICLES/100839991?Title=Controlled-burn-at-Warm-Springs-Dam-today>

76. *August 29, Associated Press* – (International) **Thousands affected by flooding in southern Mexico.** Authorities in Mexico's Gulf coast state of Tabasco are evacuating about 7,000 people and preparing to dig relief channels to avoid further flooding from the Grijalva River. Weeks of steady rains have caused a half-dozen rivers to overflow, partially flooding the homes or croplands of more than 60,000 people in about 200

towns. Dams in the area are near capacity. The federal government has declared a state of emergency for 12 low-lying Tabasco townships, freeing emergency funds. The state government said it would evacuate people on August 29, and authorities said relief ditches would be dug to channel water through less-populated areas to prevent flooding in the state capital, which was severely flooded in 2007.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20100829/ap_on_re_la_am_ca/lt_mexico_flooding

77. *August 28, CBC News* – (International) **Pakistan levee breach threatens historic city.** Floodwaters broke through the levees protecting a southern Pakistani city again August 28, prompting more than 175,000 people to leave their homes in search of higher ground. The evacuation of roughly 70 percent of Thatta's population began after the latest levee breach, caused by the Indus river overflowing its banks in Sindh province. The river is raging at 40 times its normal volume. Many evacuees decided to camp out along the main road from Thatta, while others kept moving in buses, cars, trucks and ox-drawn carts. Thousands headed for the high ground of an ancient graveyard for Muslim saints. The Makli Hill burial ground is not believed to be in danger of flooding. The U.N. reports that about 1 million people have been displaced in Thatta and Qambar-Shadadkot districts since August 25 because of flooding. The floods began in the mountainous northwest about 1 month ago with the onset of monsoon rains, and have moved slowly down the country toward the coast in the south, inundating vast swaths of prime agricultural land and damaging or destroying more than 1 million homes. More than 8 million people are in need of emergency assistance across the country. U.S. officials announced August 27 they would be sending 18 more helicopters to Pakistan by mid-September to help with flood relief efforts. The aircraft will supplement a fleet of 15 choppers and three transport planes already in use.

Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/world/story/2010/08/28/pakistan-floods.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

About the reports - The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Web site: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

Contact Information

Content and Suggestions:

Send mail to cikr.productfeedback@hq.dhs.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at 703-872-2267

Subscribe to the Distribution List:

Visit the [DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report](#) and follow instructions to [Get e-mail updates when this information changes](#).

Removal from Distribution List:

Send mail to support@govdelivery.com.

Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.